



KATHLEEN  
**McGUINNESS**  
DELAWARE  
STATE AUDITOR

## *Delaware Volunteer Fire Service Special Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021*

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**What Was Performed?** A special report of the Delaware Volunteer Fire Service for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

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The Delaware Volunteer Fire Service is responsible for fire, rescue, emergency medical and other emergency-response-related services for local jurisdictions. Their operational activities include accounting, equipment purchases and maintenance of vehicles and gear, and management of facilities.

**Why This Engagement?** This engagement was performed in accordance with 16 *Del. C.* § 6608, which requires each volunteer fire company to submit a completed audit by an independent certified public accounting firm to the State Fire Commission annually within six months of the end of the fiscal year.

**What Was Found?** After performing a detailed cost analysis of all volunteer fire companies' annual financial statements, my team and I determined that the Volunteer Fire Service saved Delaware taxpayers approximately \$255.7 million in FY21. This amount was determined by figuring how much it would cost for the state to have a fully paid fire service instead of having one that largely uses volunteers.

In addition, the Audit Team continues to recommend that the Delaware General Assembly create a fund independent of Grant-In-Aid to assist Delaware's Volunteer Fire Service.

The Delaware Fire Service special report for fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, can be found on our website: [click here](#).

Please do not reply to this email. For any questions regarding the attached report, please contact State Auditor Kathleen K. McGuinness at 302-739-5055 or [Kathleen.Mcguinness@delaware.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Mcguinness@delaware.gov).

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